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on September 21, 2005

  
Sondra R. Gillespie

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Appln. of: Dongmao Zhang, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/821,231

Filed: April 8, 2004

For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS  
FOR SEGREGATION AND  
TESTING BY SPECTRAL  
ANALYSIS OF SOLID  
DEPOSITS DERIVED FROM  
LIQUID MIXTURES

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: 1714

Attorney Docket No: 12264/017

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby cites the reference(s) listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A. A copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2) is also enclosed. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's consideration of the reference(s) and entry thereof into the record of this application.

By submitting this Statement, Applicant is attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not

intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicant has calculated no fee to be due upon filing this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the accompanying Transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

9/21/05  
Date

  
A. James Richardson (Reg. No.26,983)



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				<b>Application Number</b>	<b>10/821,231</b>
				<b>Filing Date</b>	<b>April 8, 2004</b>
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	<b>Dongmao Zhang, et al.</b>
				<b>Group Art Unit</b>	<b>1714</b>
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
<b>Sheet</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	<b>12264/017</b>

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	4,552,723		Adams et al.	11/12/1985	
	2	4,823,009		Biemann et al.	04/18/1989	
	3	5,334,837		Ikedo et al.	08/02/1994	
	4	5,605,838		Backhaus et al.	02/25/1997	
	5	5,772,964		Prevost et al.	06/30/1998	
	6	5,869,001		Backhaus et al.	02/09/1999	
	7	6,406,777	B1	Boss et al.	06/18/2002	
	8	6,569,979	B1	Strother et al.	05/27/2003	
	9	6,614,523	B1	Boss et al.	09/02/2003	

### OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTES), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	10	M. SCHUERENBERG, C. LUEBBERT, H. EICKHOFF, M. KALKUM, H. LEHRACH, E. NORDHOFF, "Prestructured MALDI-MS Sample Supports," <i>Anal. Chem.</i> 72, (2000) 3436-3442.	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	11							
	12							

<b>EXAMINER SIGNATURE</b>		<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.